

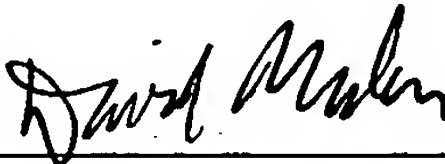
**REMARKS**

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance.  
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

DATE: March 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
David W. Maher  
Reg. No.: 40,077

Bingham McCutchen LLP  
Three Embarcadero Center  
San Francisco, California 94111  
Telephone: (650) 849-4400  
Telefax: (650) 849-4800